

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1900 - SB 2169

February 10, 2014

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits, in cases where removal of the child from the parent's custody is based on the parent's drug use or suspected drug use, a child from being returned to the custody of a parent unless the parent is required to submit to at least four random drug tests within one year following the child's return.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$6,933,300

Increase Federal Expenditures - \$3,304,800

Assumptions:

- According to the Department of Children's Services, there are approximately 3,867 children reunified with their families each year. Of these children, approximately 70 percent, or 2,707, have incidences of parental drug use.
- Currently, the department is involved in case supervision with the family approximately 90 days post-custody during the reunification process. The proposed legislation would extend the amount of time the department provides case management by approximately 275 days (365 days – 90 days) resulting in 744,425 (275 x 2,707) additional days that case management will be required.
- Each DCS case manager handles approximately 15 cases per year. The proposed legislation would increase the number of case managers needed to cover the increased supervisions by 136 (744,425 days/365 days per year/15 cases per year).
- One case manager position costs \$61,800 (\$34,400 salary + \$12,400 benefits and insurance + \$15,000 supplies, office space, and network costs). The total recurring increase in expenditures for 136 case managers is \$8,404,800 (\$61,800 x 136).
- There is a team leader assigned to every five case managers; therefore, the department will need 27 (136/5) additional team leaders.
- One team leader position costs \$67,900 (\$38,900 salary + \$14,000 benefits and insurance + \$15,000 supplies, office space, and network costs). The total recurring increase in expenditures for 27 team leaders is \$1,833,300 (\$67,900 x 27).
- The total recurring increase in expenditures is estimated to be \$10,238,100 (\$8,404,800 + \$1,833,300). Of this amount, 45 percent (\$4,607,145) are TennCare funds, three

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percent (\$307,143) are federal Title IV-E funds, and the remaining 52 percent (\$5,323,812) are state funds.

- Of the TennCare funds, \$1,609,506 are state funds at a rate of 34.935 percent and \$2,997,639 are federal funds at a match rate of 65.065 percent.
- The recurring increase in state dollars is estimated to be \$6,933,318 (\$5,323,812 + \$1,609,506) and in federal dollars is estimated to be \$3,304,782 (\$307,143 + \$2,997,639).
- It is assumed that the parent will cover the costs of the required drug testing and no additional state or local expenditures will occur.
- The proposed legislation will not result in an increase in caseloads for the juvenile courts. Any increased workload can be accommodated within existing resources.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lucian D. Geise', is positioned above the printed name.

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/kml